

'thriving trade' appearing in "Indian Express" dated July 24, 1997;

- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) the number of imposters arrested in Delhi in the said forgery cases during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Government have seen the news item in question which appeared in the *Indian Express* dated 24 June, 1997. The news item relates to fabrication/forging of documents etc. by some unscrupulous elements for providing survey to accused persons granted bail.

(c) During the last three years from 1994 to 1996, Delhi Police has arrested 99 persons allegedly involved in this malpractice.

(d) Delhi Police takes appropriate action against the offenders as and when such incidents come to their notice.

Gap between Production and Consumption of Pulses

3314. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the present gap between production and consumption of pulses in the country;
- (b) whether the gap has been increased and is likely to touch 2 million tonnes inspite of launching of special production programme of NPDPA during the recent period;
- (c) if so, the NPDPA has failed to achieve its target with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to meet the gap between the production and consumer in the country during the current year as well as Ninth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The Working Group on Demand and Supply Projections of Agricultural Commodities and Improvement of Agriculture Statistics for the formulation of Ninth Five Year Plan has assessed the requirement of pulses at the production level for 1996-97 at 15.30 million tonnes based on the normative requirement as recommended by National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad and at 15.50 million tonnes based on behaviouristic approach on GDP growth rate of 7%. The production of pulses during 1995-96 was

13.19 million tonnes and during 1996-97 14.85 million tonnes.

(b) As against the most likely production projection of 17.50 million tonnes pulses by 2001-02 the Working Group has assessed the requirement of Pulses at 17.20 million tonnes at production level based on the normative requirement and 19.50 million tonnes based on the behaviouristic approach of GDP growth rate of 7%.

(c) As pulses are grown under rainfed conditions wide fluctuations in production have been observed in the past. The implementation of National Pulses Development Project (NPDPA) has helped in stabilizing the production and increasing the productivity levels. The production of pulses has increased from 12.86 million tonnes in 1989-90 to 14.85 million tonnes in 1996-97.

(d) To increase the availability of pulses, the import of pulses has been put under OGL with import duty of 5% at present. The ongoing Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Project (NPDPA) is proposed to be continued. Through this scheme, incentives are being provided to the farmers for inputs like seeds, micro-nutrients, Rhizobium culture farm implements, sprinkler sets, etc. The future strategy to increase production of pulses will be to enhance the productivity level by use of improved seeds, micro-nutrients, application of sulphur, sprinkler mode of irrigation and adoption of Integrated Pest Management approach etc.

Bulk Drugs under Price Control

3315. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to review the list of bulk drug under the price control;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the authority for such a review and the date on which the review was last made; and
- (d) whether non-review of the list is harming the interest of the Indian companies and protecting the interest of the multinational companies?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The Drug Policy envisages that the work relating to updating/review the list of drugs under price control would be undertaken by the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA). Since the setting up of NPPA has got delayed due to problems of administrative nature the Government has recently decided to initiate the process under DPCO, 95 no such review has been done so far.